

SENIOR MILLAGE ALLOCATION COMMITTEE (SMAC)

Friday, January 6, 2022

8:00am-9:30am, In-Person

Marshall County Building, Garden Level Conference Room

315 W. Green Street, Marshall, MI 49068

MINUTES

1. Call to Order/Roll Call at 8:00am

Attending: Tom Hunsdorfer, Tom Tarkiewicz, Diane Peters, Bob Lyng, Isabell Nazar, Jim Powers, Shirley Tuggle, Dominic Oo, Michelle Hill (8:02), Bobbie Smith (8:03).

Excused: Willie Tabb (joined the meeting by zoom)

2. Approval of Agenda and December 2, 2022, Minutes

Action: Voice Vote

a) Motion to accept agenda and minutes as corrected

Motion by Lyng & Support by Oo. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried 10-0 with one excused.

3. Introductions and Citizen's Comments

a) **Staff:** Manager Helen Guzzo; Specialist Rebecca de Finta; Administrative Assistant Teri Zadigian

b) **Introductions:** Jen Bomba, Director, Community Development; Brian Grable, Treasurer, Marshall Lions Club; Anne Clark, Senior Health Partners; Carl Gibson; Luann Sommers, Executive Director, Forks Senior Center; Maya Williams, Administrator for The Kool Family Center; Nancy Wierick, Program Assistant for The Kool Family Center; Steve Frisbie, Calhoun County Commissioner and Vice Chair for the Calhoun County Board of Commission.

c) **Citizen's Comments:** Luann Sommers passed out to each SMAC member the January newsletters from Forks Senior Center and Heritage Commons. Heritage Commons is having a Euchre fundraiser on Friday, January 6, 2023, at 7pm. Effective January 1, 2023, Forks Senior Center and Heritage Commons approved a shared membership reciprocal. Carl Gibson, former Calhoun County Senior Services Director, thanked SMAC for continual support of Luann Sommers and the Forks Senior Center, and Heritage Commons. He looks forward to creating a better relationship with CareWell Services. Steve Frisbie updated the current events with County Commissioner Board. Kathy-Sue Vette was elected Chair; Steve Frisbie was elected Vice Chair. Committee assignments will be determined in the next month, and he is aware that attendance at SMAC meetings by Commissioners has been an issue.

4. Budget & Managers Report

Helen Guzzo

Helen Guzzo stated that she approved 94 exemptions to the minimum services standards in 2022. Handy Helper has requested their program limit be increase for step repairs and handrails from \$400 to \$900, this change in the Minimum Service Standard for the Handy Helper program will be on the agenda for the Feb. 2 SMAC meeting.

Helen also approved about \$4,000 in individual emergency assistance to help older adults in need with purchasing refrigerators, dryers, two recliners, and other types of assistance that are not provided from other programs. Installing metal ramps was part of the Handy Helper program in 2022, starting in 2023 the Ramps program will report on both the installation of wooden ramps and metal ramps. Wooden ramps are charged at \$65 per linear foot, and ramps are a per hour labor charge, so the Ramps and Handy Helper Min. Service Standard needs to be revised to allow for this change, and the Ramps Contract will need a contract amendment.

On January 1, the County is implementing a new financial system. I will have a 2023 budget for the February meeting. We have 1 more month to go in the 2022 Budget. The vendors submit their invoices usually by the 15th of the month. Budget amount remaining for 2022 is \$493,340 and we've spent \$3,106,000 through the end of November.

5. New Business

a) Mini-Grant: Battle Creek Community Foundation, Monthly Senior Dances - \$5,000

Maya Williams, Administrator of Operations. The Kool Family Center is a Title Holding Corporation of the Battle Creek Community Foundation. Nancy Weirick stated she understands how important the dances are to the community. Kool Center is currently receiving phone calls regarding the current dance schedules. Some of the individuals that participate are in wheelchairs, and others bring their own ball room shoes and really dress for the occasion. Not only is a great way for seniors to stay social, but it is also a great way to exercise while having fun. Maya Williams stated the center would like to offer dances each month and four times a year they would like to have two bands play with a 30-minute intermission. The center has 3 bands to choose from, Lew Boyd Band, Riverside Connection and Two Horns. The bands get paid a flat rate of \$500. About 30 to 40 people attend the dances, and they would like to number to climb back to 60 as it was prior to the pandemic. There is a different theme for each dance. The staff at the Kool Family Center provides the drinks and manage all the decorations and set up. They advertise the dances in the Shopper. It is \$6 charges to attend the dance and the dances are open to the public.

Motion by Hill & support by Tuggle. Roll call vote. Motion carried, 10-0 with one excused.

b) Mini-Grant: Marshall Lions Club, Free Wednesday for Marshall Dial-A-Ride - \$1,600

Brian Grable, Treasurer for Marshall Lions Club. Lions Club was founded in 1917 by Melvin Jones. He knew there was a way to help the culture and health of the community. In 2022, City of Marshall Dial-A-Ride reported serving 2,539 seniors, age 60 and over on Wednesday with free rides. Marshall Lions Club worked with other partners to provide free Rides on Wednesdays to seniors and people with disabilities.

Motion by Nazar & support by Smith. Roll Call vote. Motion carried, 10-0 with one excused.

c) Mini-Grant: City of Marshall, Albion Marshall Connector - \$5,000

From Jan.-Nov. 2022, Marshall reports serving 3,561 passengers on the AMC, 23% or 829 of which were seniors. The Albion Marshall Connector was created to get individuals from Albion to Oaklawn Hospital. This additional source of transporting is in addition to Community Action Transportation and Marshall Dial-A-Ride. A coalition of community organizations help cover the deficit that the program covers for the City of Albion. The City increase their request from \$3,000 in past years to \$5,000 this year, mini grants for this purpose started in 2014.

Motion by Lyng & support by Tarkiewicz. Roll call vote. Motion carried, 10-0 with one excused.

6. For Discussion

a) 2023 Request for Proposals (RFP) and the need to extend some contracts

For the 2023 Contractual Spending Request for Proposals, 17 programs are up for renewal in 2024. Helen proposes to extend the following 6 contracts for 1 year and keep at the same funding: Marian Burch Adult Day Care, Community Action Senior Transportation, CareWell Services' Meals Programs, Milestone Senior Services' Bed Bug Remediation, CareWell Services' Vision, and the Albion Forks Senior Center programs. The remaining 11 contracts would be reviewed for the request for proposal in August 2023. We would rebid the 6 contracts in 2024 for renewal in 2025. Helen will contact the 6 contracts to verify that they will not need increase in funding. SMAC will vote in February on this.

Discuss the new member nomination process

No discussion. The Bylaw Review Subcommittee of Helen Guzzo, Bob Lyng, Diane Peters, and Willie Tab will meet with the County's Corporate Counsel, Jim Dyer, on Jan. 23, 2023. recommendation.

7. SMAC Member comments

Tom Hunsdorfer stated that in the February 2, 2023, meeting SMAC members will be voting on a Chair and Vice Chair. A new County Commissioner will start attending in March.

8. Next SMAC Meeting: Friday, February 3, 2023, 8am-9:30am, Marshall County Building

9. Adjourned at 9:24

Respectfully submitted, Teri Zadigian.